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Document control options

Departmental approvals

Refer to the appropriate Risk Assessment Tool for relevant reviewer and approver

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Action required (Review/endorse/approve)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25/07/2018</td>
<td>Cameron McDonald</td>
<td>Senior Environmental Officer</td>
<td>Initial Draft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29/08/2018</td>
<td>Anita Haynes</td>
<td>Senior Environmental Officer</td>
<td>Final Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24/09/2018</td>
<td>Trevor Land</td>
<td>Project Director</td>
<td>Endorsed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/10/2018</td>
<td>Leah McKenzie</td>
<td>District Director (North Coast)</td>
<td>Approved</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Risk level

☐ GACC major  ☐ GACC minor  ☐ High risk (but not GACC)  ☒ Medium risk

Prepared by  Anita Haynes
Title  Senior Environmental Officer
District & Region  North Coast
Branch & Division  PDO
Project/program  Bruce Highway Caloundra Road to Sunshine Motorway Upgrade
Project number  280/10A/1
Project location  Tanawha/Sippy Downs/Glenview/Palmview/Meridan Plains
Status  Revision 1
DMS ref. no.  450/01352
## Proponent and Approval Action

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Detail</th>
<th>Applicable Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>EPBC Reference Number</td>
<td>2015/7464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Name</td>
<td>Bruce Highway Upgrade – Caloundra Road to Sunshine Motorway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proponent</td>
<td>Department of Transport and Main Roads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABN</td>
<td>390 407 690 291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed Action</td>
<td>To upgrade a 7km section of the Bruce Highway between Caloundra Road and the Sunshine Motorway on the Sunshine Coast, Queensland. This includes major upgrades to both interchanges and the delivery of a 2-way service road for local traffic on the western side of the highway between Steve Irwin Way and Tanawha Tourist Drive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location of Action</td>
<td>Between Caloundra Road at Meridan Plains and the Sunshine Motorway at Sippy Downs, Queensland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reporting Period</td>
<td>June 2017 - June 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date Prepared</td>
<td>August 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Declaration of Accuracy

In making this declaration, I am aware that sections 490 and 491 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act) make it an offence in certain circumstances to knowingly provide false or misleading information or documents. The offence is punishable on conviction by imprisonment or a fine, or both. I declare that all the information and documentation supporting this compliance report is true and correct in every particular. I am authorised to bind the approval holder to this declaration and that I have no knowledge of that authorisation being revoked at the time of making this declaration.

Signed

Leah McKenzie

District Director (North Coast)

Department of Transport and Main Roads (ABN 39 407 690 291)

Date

12 /10 /2018
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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this Report

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is constructing a 7km upgrade of the Bruce Highway between Caloundra Road and Sunshine Motorway (hereafter referred to as “the Project”). The Project consists of an upgrade to both the Sunshine Motorway and Caloundra Road interchanges, a six-lane upgrade of the Bruce Highway between the two interchanges, as well as a fully connected service road on the western side of the highway. TMR (as Administrator) has awarded the Project to Fulton Hogan Seymour Whyte Joint Venture (hereafter referred to as “the Contractor”) as a design and construct contract.

The Project was referred to the Department of Environment (DoE) on 15 April 2015 for determination of whether the Project was likely to have a significant impact on Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES). Projects likely to cause a significant impact on MNES require approval under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act). The Project was deemed a controlled action on 18 May 2015 and was approved, subject to conditions, on 2 September 2016 (reference number 2015/7464). The approval conditions are provided in Appendix A of this Report.

Condition 6 of the EPBC Act approval conditions requires that TMR prepare and publish an annual report on their website that addresses compliance with each of the conditions of the approval for each year of construction. This Report is the first annual compliance report for the Project that meets this Condition.

1.2 Matters of National Environmental Significance

Under the EPBC Act, a project must be referred to DoE for actions that are likely to have a significant impact on MNES protected by Part 3 of the EPBC Act. These are known as ‘controlling provisions’. This Project triggered one controlling provision: potential impacts to ‘listed threatened species and communities (Section 18 and Section 18A). The proposed action is likely to have a significant impact on the following matters protected by the EPBC Act.

- **Lowland Rainforest of Subtropical Australia** – critically endangered
  
  The proposed actions will reduce the extent of the critically endangered Lowland Rainforest of Subtropical Australia ecological community.

- **Koala** (*Phascolarctos cinerus*) – vulnerable
  
  The proposed action will reduce the extent of critical habitat for the Koala.
2. Description of Activity

2.1 Project Location

The upgrade to the Bruce Highway is being undertaken between the area extending south of Caloundra Road and north towards the Sunshine Motorway at Sippy Downs, Queensland. The Project also includes areas on the Mooloolah River floodplain and an area north of Aussie World along Frizzo Road.

The project area is located within the Sunshine Coast Regional Council (SCC) Local Government Area, approximately 15km west of Caloundra and 10km southwest of Mooloolaba. The project area encroaches on a section of the former Beerwah State Forest, west of the Bruce Highway at Glenview.

Sections of the project area have been historically cleared along the Bruce Highway for residential and commercial purposes. The project area also contains remnant vegetation, within the former Beerwah State Forest, Palmview Regional Park, and along the Mooloolah River.

2.2 Description of the Project

The Project consists of an upgrade to a 7km section of the Bruce Highway to 6-lanes between Caloundra Road and the Sunshine Motorway. This includes major upgrades to both interchanges and the delivery of a 2-way service road for local traffic on the western side of the highway between Steve Irwin Way and Tanawha Tourist Drive. The Project will include the following key features:

- Upgrade of the current Bruce Highway alignment from four lanes to six lanes and to provide immunity for a 1 in 100 year flood event, taking potential climate change impacts into consideration;
- A “diverging diamond” interchange at the intersection of the Bruce Highway and Caloundra Road to better facilitate right turn movements that are critical to the effective functioning of the interchange;
- The Western Service Road which will link the Caloundra Road interchange with the Aussie World precinct and extend through to the Sunshine Motorway interchange;
- A grade-separated interchange at the intersection of the Bruce Highway, the proposed Western Service Road and the Sunshine Motorway to provide improved efficiency for all movements, reduce queuing and delays, and increase road safety by eliminating high speeds at grade intersections. This interchange will also include access to the Aussie World precinct via a signalised intersection;
- A southbound off-ramp at Pignata Road to provide access to the Aussie World precinct and the local road network;
- Replacement and upgrades of existing drainage structures (bridges and culverts) on the Bruce Highway to maintain the existing surface water hydrological and hydraulic characteristics of the area; and
- Fauna passage structures, including an underpass, fauna fencing, a rope ladder and fauna escape structures for animals in the vicinity of the Bruce Highway.

Figure 1 provides an overview of the project area.
Figure 1: Bruce Highway Upgrade – Caloundra Road to Sunshine Motorway Design Layout
2.3 Project Progress

Vegetation clearing is still ongoing in small pockets for utilities works and within centre median areas. The bulk of clearing along the main alignment has been completed. Bulk earthworks are in progress with fill approaching final design levels in some areas. Bitumen has been laid for switches to local roads such as Sippy Creek Road, Parkyn Road, Wilson Road and Tanawha Road. Structures work for bridges and drainage are ongoing; a small number of culverts have been constructed and some bridge piers are in place.

It is anticipated that construction should be nearing completion in 2020.

2.4 Approval History

The date of the EPBC Approval, and the compliance reporting dates and status of the Annual Compliance Reports are provided in Tables 1 and 2.

Table 1: Relevant Dates for EPBC Approval.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approval Number</th>
<th>Date of Decision</th>
<th>Expiry Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EPBC 2015/7464</td>
<td>2 September 2016</td>
<td>31 December 2026</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Chronology of Compliance Reports

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reporting Dates</th>
<th>Report No.</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 2016 – December 2017</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>Completed (this report)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Condition Compliance

Table 3 provides an overview of the conditions and compliance status. Where additional information is required, reference has been made to relevant sections of this Report for further evidence of compliance.
Table 3: Summary of Compliance with EPBC Act Approval Conditions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Timeframe</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Summary of Compliance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>For the protection of the <em>EPBC Act</em> listed vulnerable Koala (<em>Phascolarctos cinereus</em>) and <em>Lowland rainforest of subtropical Australia</em> Threatened Ecological Community the approval holder must implement the “Overarching Environmental Management Plan” while undertaking the proposed action.</td>
<td>Progressive - for the period of construction.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>An Overarching Environmental Management Plan (OEMP) has been developed and approved for the Project. The implementation of the OEMP and subsequent EPBC Conditions of Approval can be demonstrated by the Project Environmental Management System, which includes an accepted Project Environmental Management Plan (Planning) and EMP(C), both developed to ensure OEMP requirements are considered and implemented during construction. Section 4.1 provides additional information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>For the protection of the <em>EPBC Act</em> listed critically endangered <em>Lowland rainforest of subtropical Australia</em> the approval holder must:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(a) Not disturb more than 3.92ha of the <em>Lowland rainforest of subtropical Australia</em> Threatened Ecological Community within and adjacent to the project site;</td>
<td>(a) For the construction period</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>(a) To date a total of 2,700m² (0.27ha) of “Threatened Ecological Community” has been cleared within and adjacent to the project site, in compliance with Condition 2(a). Progressive quantities for cleared areas are reviewed and provided in the Contractors monthly environmental progress reports. Refer to Appendix B for a map of the project site, and Appendix C for “as-built” diagram of areas cleared to date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(b) Legally secure and implement the offset of 16.64ha at the location shown and ensure that by the tenth anniversary of commencement of action, the offset meets the following condition thresholds:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>i. Canopy cover: at least 70% of canopy vegetation is native;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ii. Species richness: contains 30 native woody species from the “Lowland rainforest of subtropical Australia” threatened ecological community listing advice; and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(b) By the tenth anniversary of commencement action</td>
<td>Commenced</td>
<td></td>
<td>(b) Lots 37 C3147, 1 RP227759, and 2 RP27760, in Palmview, Queensland (16.64ha), is legally secured under a Conservation Agreement from the Commonwealth with NRME, TMR and SCC as parties to the agreement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(c) By the first 12 month anniversary of commencement.</td>
<td>Commenced</td>
<td></td>
<td>(i) In progress. Data will be collected during the third quarter of 2018 for year two reporting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Condition</td>
<td>Timeframe</td>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Summary of Compliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
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<td>-----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii.</td>
<td>Total vegetation: At least 70% of total vegetation cover is native. (c) Legally secure and implement the offset of 4.65ha at the location shown by the first 12-month anniversary of the commencement of the action.</td>
<td>(ii) Compliant. A flora assessment was undertaken by Eco 9 Pty Ltd. (iii) In progress. Data will be collected during the third quarter in 2018 for year two reporting. (c) Lot 2 RP268457 (28 Mooloolah Road, Mooloolah Valley, Sunshine Coast). TMR has purchased the allotment in Freehold in 2016, a Voluntary Declaration is now in place.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>For the protection of the EPBC Act listed vulnerable Koala (<em>Phascolarctos cinereus</em>) the approval holder must: (a) Not disturb more than 35.3ha of Koala habitat within the Project site; (b) Implement the five Koala movement structures (Koala friendly underpasses) within the Project site, namely: i. One new structure to facilitate Koala movement across Steve Irwin Way; ii. One new structure to facilitate Koala movement across the Bruce Highway south of the Mooloolah River; iii. One new structure to facilitate Koala movement across the Bruce Highway north of Sippy Creek; iv. Improve the existing structure at Sippy Creek to facilitate Koala movement across the Bruce Highway; and</td>
<td>(a) For the construction period. Commenced and tracking. (b) Design and Implementation phase. Design commenced. (c) By the first 12 month anniversary of commencement. Commenced</td>
<td>(a) The definition of “Koala habitat” in the approval refers only to “high” and “medium” Koala habitat. Accordingly, the total Koala habitat cleared to date is 155,891m² (15.59ha), in compliance with Condition 3 (a). The total for Non-Juvenile Koala Habitat (NJKH) floral species individuals cleared to date is 3,029 individuals. (b) With reference to sub-conditions regarding Koala movement structures, these have been incorporated into the preliminary design drawings for road furniture, which will be finalised in detailed design. The project is still under construction therefore the new koala movement structures have not yet been installed. (c) Lot 2 RP51879 (Missing Link Road, Glenview). TMR purchased the property in Freehold in 2016 from private landowner, a Voluntary Declaration is now in place.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Refer to Section 4.2 for additional information.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Timeframe</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Summary of Compliance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>v.</td>
<td>Improve the existing structure at Mooloolah River to facilitate Koala movement across the Bruce Highway.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Refer to Section 4.3 for additional information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c)</td>
<td>Legally secure and implement the offset of 50ha at the location shown by the first 12-month anniversary of the commencement of the action.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Within 10 days of the commencement of the action, the approval holder must advise the Department in writing of the actual date of commencement of the action.</td>
<td>Within 10 days of commencement of construction</td>
<td>Completed.</td>
<td>A letter was submitted to the Department on 23 December 2016 to formally notify of the commencement of works. Refer to Appendix G for this notice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>The approval holder must maintain accurate records substantiating all activities associated with or relevant to the conditions of approval and make them available upon request to the Department. Such records may be subject to audit by the Department or an independent auditor in accordance with Section 458 of the EPBC Act, or used to verify compliance with the conditions of approval. Summaries of audits will be posted on the Department’s website. The results of audits must also be published on the approval holder’s website within two weeks of the Department’s approval of the final audit.</td>
<td>Progressive</td>
<td>Ongoing.</td>
<td>Refer to Section 4.4 of this Report.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Within three months of every 12-month anniversary of the commencement of the action, the approval holder must publish a report on their website addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval over the previous 12 months. Documentary evidence providing proof of the date of publication and non-compliance with any of</td>
<td>For the period of construction. The compliance report must be published within three months of</td>
<td>First compliance report complete (this Report).</td>
<td>This is the first compliance report for the EPBC approval. As such this report will be published on the TMR website concurrently with submission to the Department, satisfying this condition of approval. The relevant documentary evidence will be provided to DES at the time of publication. It is noted that the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Condition</td>
<td>Timeframe</td>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Summary of Compliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Upon direction of the Minister, the person taking the action must ensure that an independent audit of compliance with the conditions of approval is conducted and a report submitted to the Minister. The independent auditor must be approved by the Minister prior to the commencement of the audit. Audit criteria must be agreed to by the Minister and the audit report must address the criteria to the satisfaction of the Minister.</td>
<td>Following direction from the Minister.</td>
<td>To date, there has been no direction from the Minister to complete an independent audit.</td>
<td>Not applicable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Condition 6 ceases to apply once the approval holder has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Minister that all conditions have been achieved.</td>
<td>Not currently applicable</td>
<td>Not currently applicable</td>
<td>Not currently applicable</td>
</tr>
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4. **Additional Supporting Information**

4.1 **Condition 1**

Condition 1 of the EPBC Act approval states:

“For the protection of the EPBC Act listed vulnerable Koala (Phascolarctos cinereus) and Lowland rainforest of subtropical Australia Threatened Ecological Community the approval holder must implement the “Overarching Environmental Management Plan” while undertaking the proposed action.”

An Environmental Management Plan (Planning) report was prepared to communicate the EPBC compliance requirements applicable to the project during the development and implementation phases.

The Contractor operates under an Environmental Management Plan – Construction (EMP-C) which has undergone a document revision process by TMR. The EMP-C reflects the mitigation measures outlined in the Overarching Environmental Management Plan (OEMP), as well as control strategies and commitments to account for any issues and requirements identified in the Project Scope of Works and Technical Criteria (SWTC), presented in a format that is suitable for use by on-ground personnel.

The Contractor provides monthly environmental reports demonstrating compliance with the EMP-C, which reflects the intentions and requirements of the OEMP and SWTC. This demonstration of compliance is achieved through monthly environmental and internal audit reporting, which includes the subset of compliance and reporting deliverables noted within the OEMP.

Independent third-party audits are undertaken quarterly to demonstrate compliance with the OEMP and SWTC and identify any non-conformance. In addition, quarterly external environmental audits are undertaken by an independent auditor to verify compliance with the OEMP, SWTC, and the EMP-C including EPBC approval conditions.

The Project has developed an Environmental Management Plan – Construction (EMP-C) which includes specific environmental risk assessment and associated mitigation measures appropriate to a construction project of this nature and scale, inclusive of the mitigation measures outlined in the Overarching Environmental Management Plan (OEMP). During the development of the EMP(C) reconciliation of project obligations arising from the OEMP were included in the EMP(C) and included in more detail the specific project environmental sub-plans. Sub-plans have been developed to support the EMP-C implemented as part of construction, and include:

- Vegetation Management Plan.
- Fauna management plan.
- Fauna rescue and release Procedure.
- Species management plan.
- Overarching erosion and sediment control management plan.
- Weed, pest and disease management plan.
- Water quality management plan.
- Cultural heritage plan.
- Noise and vibration management plan.
- Air quality management plan.
- Soils management plan.
- Acid sulphate soil management plans.
• Waste management plan.
• Hazardous substances management plan.
• Greenhouse gases management plan

The above management plans are used to detail the specific construction controls required to ensure each potential aspect and impact identified is eliminated, reduced or appropriately mitigated. These plans have been developed to meet requirements of the OEMP and the EPBC referral.

The management measures of the management plans are monitored by daily and weekly environmental inspection checks, review of vegetation clearing and fauna spotter reports (pre-clearance and post works), water quality monitoring data, erosion and sediment control monitoring and weed and pest monitoring. Internal and external environmental audit checks are undertaken to ensure compliance and provide opportunity for improvement where required.

No project non-conformances have been reported specific to EPBC Conditions of approval or OEMP requirements.

4.2 Condition 2

4.2.1 Condition 2 (b) of the EPBC Act approval states:

“For the protection of the EPBC Act Lowland rainforest of subtropical Australia Threatened Ecological Community the approval holder must (b) enter Legally secure and implement the offset of 16.64ha at the location shown and ensure that by the tenth anniversary of commencement of action, the offset meets the following condition thresholds:

i. Canopy cover: at least 70% of canopy vegetation is native;

ii. Species richness: contains 30 native woody species from the “Lowland rainforest of subtropical Australia” threatened ecological community listing advice; and

iii. Total vegetation: At least 70% of total vegetation cover is native.

An Offset Management Plan (OMP) has been developed by DTMR to demonstrate the objectives of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) Environmental Offsets Policy in compensating for impacts on the Lowland Rainforest of Subtropical Australia (LRSA) Threatened Ecological Community (TEC). The impacts on this TEC will result from works associated with Project.

The scope of the OMP is to align specific environmental revegetation, regeneration, rehabilitation and protection measures for vegetation that occurs in a portion of the LMRE Reserve, Laxton Road, Palmview. These activities will deliver TMR’s offset obligations under the EPBC Act, yielding an overall conservation outcome for the LRSA TEC.

An agreement between Sunshine Coast Council (SCC) and the Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) to deliver and manage the Mooloolah River Rainforest Offset Project was signed on 1 June 2017. The agreement will comply with and meet the Environmental Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC) conditions of approval and is part of the agreement.

The following activities are scheduled to occur over the following twelve months.

• Ground preparation for first round of tubestock installation including ripping (where appropriate) and spraying of planting circles.
• Installation of tube-stock including soil amelioration, guards, mulch and weed mats.
• Installation of erosion control planting.
• Initial weed control throughout the rainforest remnant (with particular focus on the northern edge where weediness is most prominent).
• Commencement of monitoring and data collection.
• Commencement of general maintenance works as required by the OMP.
• There are no reported non-conformances this reporting period.

The compliance status of the EPBC conditions are referenced in Table 3 above.
Refer to Appendix D for map of Lower Mooloolah River Environmental Reserve (LMRE) offset site.

4.2.2 Condition 2 (c) of the EPBC Act approval states:

Legally secure and implement the offset of 4.65ha at the location shown by the first 12-month anniversary of the commencement of the action.

TMR has purchased Lot 2 RP268457 (28 Mooloolah Road, Mooloolah Valley, Sunshine Coast) in Freehold 2016 and a Voluntary Declaration is in place.

An Offset Management Plan (OMP) has been prepared and is to protect and maintain in perpetuity 5.02 ha of Lowland Subtropical Rainforest, and manage to remnant status approximately 4.5 ha of high value regrowth as a land-based offset for clearing works associated with the Project works.

The OMP details key risks and management actions to address them, and provides support for a Voluntary Declaration under the Vegetation Management Act 1999, and support the requirements of the approval under the EPBC Act for the Project.

The primary management objective for the site is to conserve and improve the value of the area for the Lowland rainforest of subtropical Australia (LRSA). The overall management outcome will be to maintain current vegetation structure at the property, composition and diversity, and improve the value of the area through management of high value regrowth to increase the total area of LRSA, and buffer core LRSA against weed invasion and fire.

TMR has engaged a Contractor to deliver the works under the OMP and to meet the Environmental EPBC conditions of approval and is part of the agreement. There are no reported non-conformances this reporting period.

Refer to Appendix E for map of Mooloolah Valley offset site.

4.3 Condition 3

Condition 3 (c) of the EPBC Act approval states:

For the protection of the EPBC Act listed vulnerable Koala (Phascolarctos cinereus) the approval holder must: Legally secure and implement the offset of 50ha at the location shown by the first 12-month anniversary of the commencement of the action.

TMR purchased Lot 2 RP51879 (Missing Link Road, Glenview) in Freehold in 2016 from a private landowner, a Voluntary Declaration is now in place.

An Offset Management Plan has been prepared for the property to protect and maintain in perpetuity 50.07 ha of koala habitat as a land-based offset for clearing works associated with the Project. The OMP details key risks management actions to address them, and provides support for a Voluntary Declaration under the Vegetation Management Act 1999, outlines the requirements for management of koala habitat offsets.

This 50.072 ha offset will provide a net conservation gain over the impacts on koala habitat of the Project, largely through protection in perpetuity of existing remnant vegetation and improvements to habitat condition by weed and fire management.

TMR has engaged a Contractor to deliver the requirements of the OMP and offset conditions to enhance Koala habitat characteristics. Activities relevant to the offset site include:

• Koala habitat monitoring – a baseline Koala Survey conducted using Koala Detection Dogs and the Spot Assessment Technique (SAT) and Annual BioCondition plot monitoring;
• Fire Management – The preparation of a detailed Fire Management Plan (FMP) and onsite Fire Management including application of controlled burns;
• Weed Control – Implementation of systematic and regular weed control; and
• Reporting – Annual reports, biannual in the first year.

No project non-conformances have been reported.
Refer to Appendix F for map of Glenview offset site.

4.4 Condition 5

Condition 5 of the EPBC Act Approval states:

“The approval holder must maintain accurate records substantiating all activities associated with or relevant to the conditions of approval and make them available upon request to the Department.”

TMR acknowledges this condition. All records pertaining to activities associated with or relevant to the EPBC Act conditions of approval are maintained and up dated on a regular basis. Records substantiating conditions and other project obligations are a requirement of the Project EMP and include inductions, training and awareness monitoring and reporting, incident reporting, inspection and audits are undertaken and reported to the Administrator monthly.

4.4.1 Principal Contractor EMP

The Principal Contractor is required to maintain accurate records of all activities relevant to the conditions of approval in accordance with their Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and associated sub-plans. The Contractors EMP and sub-plans are accepted by the Administrator (TMR). The implementation of each Contractor’s EMP, including compliance with required record-keeping, is subject internal monthly and external quarterly audits.

4.4.2 Environmental Site Inductions

An environmental site induction is provided to all project site personnel, contractors and subcontractors prior to commencing work on site. The Principal Contractor is required to maintain an accurate record of all persons inducted on the Project.

4.4.3 Contractor Reporting

In accordance with the requirements of the contract conditions, the Principal Contractor is required to keep records of the following:

• Environment and Cultural Heritage Induction register.
• Monitoring results – air, noise, vibration, water, flora (veg clearing reports, KHT counts), fauna (amphibian monitoring, fauna reports), contamination, weeds and pests.
• Inspection reports, checklists and diary entries.
• Incidents, non-conformances, and complaints register and associated corrective actions taken.
• Compliance testing results.
• Contractor environment audit reports and subsequent corrective actions taken.
• Biosecurity Matter certificates, permits, management documentation.
• Complete registers kept under Species Management Program of animal breeding place(s) tampered with and injury/death to native fauna.

The Principal Contractor is required to undertake and document weekly and monthly environmental site inspections for the purpose of verifying compliance with the EMP, licences, permits and approvals and the other environmental performance requirements specified within the Contract.
The Principal Contractor also provides the Administrator (TMR) monthly progress reports on environmental matters. The monthly reports also include records of the total area and individual numbers of TEC and Koala habitat cleared each month.

4.4.4 Environmental Checks

To ensure compliance with the EPBC Act conditions of approval, including measures taken to implement the management plans required by this approval, the following environmental audits are undertaken:

- Prior to works commencing on site, the environmental documentation (including the EMP) was revised and accepted by the Administrator prior to use.
- The Contractors environmental documentation (EMP and ESCP) updates and revisions are revised and accepted by the Administrator prior to use.
- Independent quarterly audits on the implementation of the Contractor’s EMP is undertaken.

4.4.5 Environmental Incident Reporting

The Contractor must notify the Administrator immediately of any incidents where actual or potential environmental harm has taken place. The Contractor must undertake a root cause analysis of the Environmental Incident and provide the analysis to the Administrator in the next revision of the environmental monthly progress report.

No incident or environmental non-conformance which is a direct non-compliance with the EPBC conditions of approval has been reported.

5. Conclusion

The CR2SM Project is well underway with the current focus being predominantly on bulk earthworks, bridges, and drainage construction and installation. The Project is expected to reach practical completion by late 2020, weather permitting. Some vegetation clearing is still to occur over the coming months in isolated pockets, however the bulk of clearing and grubbing has been completed throughout the main alignment from south of Caloundra Road to the north along Sunshine Motorway at Sippy Downs. The Project has displayed general compliance with the conditions of the EPBC approval, noting that some of the items are “works in progress” in specific regard to offset activities.

6. References


RPS Australia East Pty Ltd (2016), Bruce Highway Upgrade – Caloundra Road to Sunshine Motorway Project: Threatened Ecological Community Impact Assessment (Lowland Rainforest of Subtropical Australia) EPBC 2015/7464, report prepared for Department of Transport and Main Roads.
Appendix A – EPBC Conditions of Approval
Appendix B – CR2SM Project Site Threatened Ecological Community
Appendix C – As-Built Clearing Diagram
Appendix D – Lower Mooloolah River Environmental Reserve Offset Site (16.64ha)

Lower Mooloolah River Environmental Reserve Offset Site.

Lower Mooloolah River Environmental Reserve Offset Site General Locale.
Appendix E – 28 Mooloolah Road, Mooloolah Valley Offset Site (4.65ha)

28 Mooloolah Road, Mooloolah Valley Offset Site.

28 Mooloolah Road, Mooloolah Valley Offset Site General Locale.
Appendix F – Missing Link Road, Glenview Offset Site (50ha)

Missing Link Road, Glenview Offset Site.

Missing Link Road, Glenview Offset Site General Locale.
Appendix G – Notification of Commencement of the Action

23 December 2016

Compliance and Enforcement Branch
Environment Standards Division
Department of Environment and Energy
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Sent by email: post approvals@environment.gov.au

Attr: Imogen Moore

Dear Ms Moore

With reference to condition 4 of EPBC Approval 2015/7464, this letter is to formally notify your Department of the commencement of works for The Bruce Highway Upgrade Project – Caloundra Road to Sunshine Motorway (CR2SM).

Access to the site was granted to the Contractor on 2 December 2016 for preliminary works including geotechnical investigations, building demolitions and site compound establishment.

Ancillary to the geotechnical investigations and site compound establishment, minor vegetation clearing commenced in locations applicable to this approval on 8 December 2016.

If you have any questions, or require further information in relation to the above works, please contact Mr Mark Asang on 0418 795 671 or Ms Amy Kirkpatrick on 0428 103 576. Information and on the project including project updates are also available on our website at: http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/Projects/Name/B/ Bruce-Highway-Caloundra-Road-to-Sunshine-Motorway-upgrade.

Yours sincerely

Mark Asang
Project Manager

for Gavin Soward
Project Director
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